

SIMIA FASCICULARIS RAFFLES, 1821 (MAMMALIA, PRIMATES): REQUEST FOR THE SUPPRESSION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS OF *SIMIA AYGULA* LINNAEUS, 1758, A SENIOR SYNONYM. Z.N.(S.) 2399

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On the authority of Thomas & Wroughton (1909, *Proc. zool. Soc. London*, p. 373), the name *Simia aygula* Linnaeus, 1758 (*Syst. Nat.* vol. 1, p. 27) has for many years been considered to be a Javan Leaf Monkey, antedating *Presbytis mitrata* Eschscholtz, 1821 (in Kotzebue, *Entdeckungs-Reise in die Süd-See*, vol. 3, p. 196, pl., type species of the genus *Presbytis* Eschscholtz, 1821).

2. Linnaeus' diagnosis and description are as follows:

"*S. caudata subbarbata* grisea, eminentia pilosa verticis longitudinali.

Osbeck. iter. 99.

Habitat in India. *Osbeck*.

Corpus griseum lupi coloris, subtus gula, pectore, abdomineque albicans. Cauda corpore longior, cinerea, attenuata. Facies planiuscula, albida, nuda. Nasus depressus, brevissimus, ab ore remotus, lacuna labii superioris gemina. Bucca subbarbata, longitudine menti subbarbati. Supercilia frontis gibba, prominentia. Pedes nigri: Ungues pollicum rotundati; reliqui oblongi. Auriculae acutiusculae."

[‘Tailed, somewhat bearded grey monkey, with a longitudinal hairy eminence on the crown.

Lives in India.

Body grey, wolf-coloured, under throat, chest and abdomen becoming white. Tail longer than body, ashy-grey, slender. Face flattish, whitish, naked. Nose flat, very short, remote from mouth, with twin grooves on the upper lip. Cheek rather bearded, along the chin rather bearded. Brows swollen, prominent. Feet black: nails rounded on thumb; remainder oblong. Ears rather pointed.‘]

This description comes almost entirely from two sources: (1) Osbeck's description of a young animal ('the size of a small cat') which he collected in Java (1757, *Ostindisk Resa*, p. 99), and of other 'Jawanska markattor' which he saw in Java, and (2) from Osbeck's description of a live adult male 'markatta' belonging to Burgomaster Renhorn of Arboga in Sweden (unpublished letters from Osbeck to Linnaeus, 13th May and 27th June, 1756, in the Linnaean Society Archives).

3. Many of the features in Linnaeus' diagnosis are incompatible with its interpretation as a Javan Leaf Monkey; most crucial, however,

is a character not mentioned by Linnaeus, but coming from Osbeck's description of his Javan specimen: the crest on the crown is stated to be the same colour as the rest of the body (grey or grey yellow). This absolutely rules out the grey Javan *Presbytis* with its contrasting black-crested head. The latter species can in any case be excluded on the grounds that no Leaf Monkey could at that time have been brought alive to Europe and survived to adulthood. A few quotations may also be given from J. R. Forster's translation of Osbeck (published in 1771 as *A voyage to China and the East Indies*) to show the ineptness of identifying the 'Jawanska markattor' with any Leaf Monkey: 'They ... embrace one another ... They play with dogs if they have no nearer friends about them... They make a continual noise during the night time... If any body looks at them, they are angry, and begin a smacking. They resemble all others of this genus in dirtyness, lasciviousness, drollery...'

4. Unfortunately no type material is available to confirm the identification at either the Zoologiska Museet in Uppsala or the Naturhistoriska Riksmuseet in Stockholm.

5. *Simia aygula* is quite clearly the Crab-eating or Long-tailed Macaque, as Buffon indeed opined as early as 1766 (*Hist. nat.* vol. 14, pp. 190–191, footnote). He allied it with his 'Aigrette', which is probably the derivation of *aygula*, signifying a little crest. At present the name used for the Crab-eater is *Macaca fascicularis* (Raffles, 1821, *Trans. linn. Soc. London*, vol. 13, p. 246). Other names used in recent years for this taxon are (1) *Macaca cynamolgos* (Linnaeus, 1758) which was mistakenly applied to the Crab-eating Macaque following Schreber (1774, *Säugethiere*, vol. 1, p. 91, pl. 13) which unites Linnaeus' description of the hamadryas baboon with an engraving of Buffon's 'Macaque'; and (2) [*Macaca*] *Irus* (F. Cuvier, 1818, *Mem. Mus. Hist. nat. Paris*, vol. 4, p. 120), rightly rejected as unavailable by both Miller (1942, *Proc. Acad. nat. Sci. Philadelphia* vol. 94, pp. 127–128) and Fooden (1964, *Science, New York*, vol. 143, p. 365) because not published in a binomen. It would seriously impair scientific communication if the name of this species should be changed yet again, as is required by the Law of Priority.

6. The International Commission is therefore requested to
 - (a) use its plenary powers to suppress the specific name *aygula* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen *Simia aygula*, for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy;
 - (b) place *fascicularis* Raffles, 1821, as published in the binomen *Simia fascicularis*, on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology; and
 - (c) place the name suppressed in (1) above on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology.